



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

The Ngena is represented as the most terrible monster of his native forests. His appearance is hideous even when dead. Among the natives he is the subject of many allegories, in which he acts some distinguished part, perhaps that of a king or a conqueror—perhaps a defender or a destroyer. In the forests he seems to be the implacable enemy of man.

Though he never lies in wait, yet when he hears, sees or scents a man, he immediately utters his characteristic cry, prepares for an attack, and always acts on the offensive. The cry that he utters resembles a grunt more than a growl, and is similar to the cry of the Chimpanzee when irritated, but vastly louder. It is said to be audible at a great distance. His preparation consists in attending the females and young ones, by which he is usually accompanied, to a little distance. He, however, soon returns with his crest erect and projecting forward, his nostrils dilated and his under lip thrown down, at the same time uttering his characteristic yell, designing, it would seem, to terrify his antagonist; instantly, unless he is disabled by a well directed shot, he makes an onset, and striking his antagonist with the palm of his hands, or seizing him with a grasp from which there is no escape, he dashes him upon the ground and lacerates him with his tusks.

He is said to seize a musket and instantly crush the barrel between his teeth.

Some hunters are said to have permitted him to take hold of the musket and carry it to his mouth, firing as it passes between his teeth. This will, however, appear to lack probability, though it is stoutly maintained by the natives.

He is said to be always at war with the leopard, which he destroys if he succeeds in seizing him. The leopard, however, by his superior agility, often wears him out. He is said to spring upon the back of the Ngena and lacerate his neck with his teeth, escaping before he can be seized. This animal's savage nature is very well shown by the implacable disposition of a young one that was brought here. It was taken very young and kept four months, and many means were used to tame it, but it was incorrigible, so that it bit me an hour before it died.

The various stories of his building houses in imitation of the natives—his covering himself with bushes, which he hurls upon his antagonist in his attacks; vanquishing the elephant with clubs, or even using clubs at any time, and numerous other accounts given to credulous whites, are considered ridiculous by the best informed natives. Yet every Nipongue man has a fund of such stories which he vends to children and every one else who will listen to them with credulity.

From my most careful inquiries I can find no one who believes that these creatures are of the same original stock as black men, as some have reported. By most it is considered an insult to suppose it.

His flesh is considered delicate eating by the tribes where he is taken, though the Nipongues consider it quite 'vulgar fare.' The *slaves* here, however, carried away the flesh as soon as it was taken from the bones of my specimen."

Dr. Ruschenberger read a portion of his "Notice of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia," the remainder of which was deferred to the next meeting.

February 10th.

Vice-President WETHERILL in the Chair.

Dr. Ruschenberger concluded the reading of his "Notice of the Academy."

Whereupon the following Resolutions, offered by William S. Vaux, Esq., were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Members of the Academy have listened with the deepest interest and satisfaction to the "Notice" just read.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Academy be presented to Dr. Ruschenberger for the labor he has bestowed in the preparation of the able and faithful Notice read by him before the Society, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same to the Committee on Proceedings for publication.

Resolved, That a Committee of three members be appointed to communicate the foregoing Resolutions to Dr. Ruschenberger.

Committee, Mr. Vaux, Dr. Bridges and Mr. Pearsall.

The Rev. Mr. Langstroth read a paper entitled, "On the impregnation of the eggs of the Queen Bee;" which being intended for publication in the Proceedings, was referred to Dr. Leidy, Dr. Le Conte and Dr. Fisher.

Dr. Le Conte presented for publication in the Proceedings, the following papers: "Hints towards a Natural Classification of the family Histrini of Coleopterous Insects;" "Synopsis of the Parnidæ of the United States;" "Synopsis of the Eucnemidæ of Temperate North America;" all of which were referred to the following Committee: Dr. Bridges, Dr. Leidy and Dr. Elwyn.

A letter was read from the Librarian of the British Museum, dated Jan. 19th, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of No. 10, Vol. 5, of the Proceedings.

Also a letter from the Royal Academy of Sciences of Stockholm, dated April 20th, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of No. 12, Vol. 4, and No. 1, Vol. 5, of the Proceedings.

And a second letter from the same, of same date, accompanying copies of the Transactions and Bulletin of that Institution for 1849 and '50.

Dr. Leidy presented, for the inspection of the members, an interesting specimen of a fossil turtle, from the collection of Dr. D. D. Owen, made in Nebraska territory, and sent to him, for examination, by the Smithsonian Institute. It proves the existence of a species distinct from any of those before described from the same region, for which the name *Emys Culbertsonii* is proposed. Its measurements are as follows:

Length of the five vertebral scutes,	.	.	.	17 inches.
Transverse breadth of carapace in curve,	.	.	.	22 "
Height,	.	.	.	6½ "
Length of middle vertical scute,	.	.	.	3 "
Breadth " " "	.	.	.	4 "

Mr. Phillips announced that the collection of Minerals of the late Mr. Gilmore, of Baltimore, was for sale.

February 17th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Letters were read from the Secretary of the Trustees of the New York State Library, acknowledging the receipt of No. 12, Vol. 5, of the Proceedings, and of a copy of Dr. Meigs' Memoir of Dr. Morton.

From the Geological Society of London, dated June 24th and Nov. 6th, 1851, returning thanks for copies of late Nos. of the Proceedings.

Mr. Vaux, on behalf of the Committee on the subject, read a commu-